II. Amendments to the Claims

Kindly cancel Claims 2-18 without prejudice; and kindly add claims 19-22.

1. A wheel cover assembly comprising:

a plurality of lug nuts each having a flange and a central axis;

a wheel cover adapted to cover the central portion of a wheel;

a plurality of elongated tubular extensions extending axially from said wheel cover for attaching the wheel cover to the lug nuts of the wheel, each elongated tubular extension including a plurality of axial slots subdividing the extension into a plurality of cantilevered fingers adapted to engage the flange of a respective lug nut to retain said wheel cover to said wheel;

means for biasing a portion of at least one of said plurality of cantilevered fingers into engagement with at least one of said lug nuts, said means for biasing configured to radially bias said portion of said at least one of said plurality of cantilevered fingers in a direction towards said central axis of said lug nut; and

means for locating said biasing means on said wheel cover, said means for locating extending from said wheel cover and disposed between said plurality of elongated tubular extensions;

whereby said at least one of said plurality of cantilevered fingers assisted by said biasing means snaps into engagement with a respective one of said lug nuts to maintain engagement with said lug nut such that said wheel cover assembly is removably attached to said wheel.

Claims 2-18 (canceled)

19. (new) A method of retaining a wheel cover to a vehicle wheel, said wheel cover adapted to be mounted to a plurality of lug nuts of a wheel, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a wheel cover comprising a base having a front face, an oppositely disposed rear face and a central axis, said wheel cover further having a plurality of elongated tubular extensions having an outboard surface, an end biasing portion attached to said wheel cover base and an opposite end extending in a direction away from said rear face, said plurality of elongated tubular extensions being circumferentially spaced about said rear face, said end biasing portion of each tubular extension being a solid tubular body, said opposite end of each of said plurality of tubular extensions being hollow and axially slotted to define a plurality of cantilevered fingers to an apical end providing a means for biasing a radially inner portion of at least one of said cantilevered fingers of each of said plurality of tubular extensions;

placing a plurality of locators in spaced relation to said plurality of tubular extensions on said rear face of said wheel cover base;

placing said means for retaining said means for biasing in said rear face of said wheel cover base;

placing said means for biasing on said plurality of locators and on said means for retaining such that said biasing means biases said at least one of said cantilevered fingers of each of said plurality of tubular extensions in a direction towards said lug nuts to maintain engagement with said lug nut when said wheel cover is mounted to said wheel and further whereby said wheel cover is easily removable from said wheel without removing said means from biasing from said plurality of locators and said means

for retaining.

20. (new) The method of retaining a wheel cover to a wheel as claimed in claim 19 further comprising the steps of defining said means for retaining to permanently mount said biasing means to said wheel cover.

21. (new) The method of retaining a wheel cover to a vehicle wheel wherein each of said plurality of tubular extensions is integrally molded as a part of said wheel cover base.

22. (new) The method of retaining a wheel cover to a vehicle wheel further comprising the steps of placing said plurality of elongated tubular extensions substantially concentric to said central axis of said wheel cover.